

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring the Indiana State Fair
Commission and Board on the upcoming 150th State Fair.

**FORD, MERRITT, CRAYCRAFT,
LEWIS**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 114th General Assembly (2006)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring the Indiana State Fair Commission and Board on the upcoming 150th State Fair.

Whereas, in 1851, the Indiana General Assembly passed an act "to encourage agriculture," which provided for the formation of a State Board of Agriculture. The primary goal of the Board was to create the first Indiana State Fair;

Whereas, then in 1852, Indiana became the sixth state to begin holding an annual state agricultural fair. The original purpose of the State Fair was to allow Indiana's farmers to share ideas, view the most modern farming techniques, and display their products;

Whereas, the first State Fair was held at Camp Sullivan, which is now known as Military Park in downtown Indianapolis. While Indianapolis has been the primary location of the State Fair throughout its history, a few other Indiana cities hosted the event in the 1800s: Lafayette (1853), Madison (1854), New Albany (1859), Fort Wayne (1865) and Terre Haute (1867);

Whereas, in 1892, the Fair moved to its current location at East 38th Street and Fall Creek Parkway;

Whereas, the Indiana State Fair is one of the longest



running fairs in the nation, having been held every year since 1852 with the exceptions of 1861, due to the Civil War, and 1942-1945, due to World War II;

Whereas, agricultural activities at the Fair over the years have consisted of various livestock shows and crop exhibits. In addition, the Fair has included numerous homemaking projects such as baking, sewing, and arts and crafts;

Whereas, today, with over 64,000 farms in Indiana, agriculture is still a focal point of the Fair. Attractions such as Pioneer Village, Farmers Day at the Fair, Pioneer Our Land Pavilion, the Ag/Hort Building, Little Hands on the Farm, and countless other exhibits highlight the development and impact of agriculture on the lives of Hoosiers statewide;

Whereas, in addition to agriculture, the Indiana State Fair has hosted many nationally-known performers, including: Captain Kangaroo, Johnny Cash, Reba McKentire, DefLeppard, Dolly Parton, Garth Brooks, Bruce Springsteen, Alabama, Sonny & Cher, and The Beatles;

Whereas, the Indiana State Fair is also known for its scrumptious and varied menu of food, including traditional favorites like corn on the cob, Hoosier ribeye sandwiches, lemon shake-ups, milk shakes, and corn dogs, as well as many other delicious treats;

Whereas, after \$8 million in enhancements in 2004, the 4-H Education Complex at the State Fairgrounds is the nation's premier showcase of 4-H exhibits and events;

Whereas, with an annual average attendance of more than 800,000 visitors, the State Fair is the most-attended event in Indiana and generates nearly \$20 million annually for the economy; and



Whereas, although primarily an agricultural exposition, the Indiana State Fair is a family event that young and old look forward to every year: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes the
- 2 150th Indiana State Fair and congratulates the Indiana State Fair
- 3 Commission and Board on having one of the longest running State Fairs
- 4 in the nation.
- 5 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
- 6 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Cindy Hoye, Executive Director
- 7 of the Fair Commission; Dr. Gene Sease, State Fair Commission
- 8 Chairman; and the members of the Indiana State Fair Board.

